ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for linking an ROP (Read Only Printer) to a CSN (Compact Service Node) platform at a telecommunication facility. The UNIX software for the CSN may be modified so as to enable the ROP option and also to recognize the external printer attached to the CSN. An unassigned port at the CSN may be used to connect the ROP to the CSN. Therefore, no hardware modifications to the CSN architecture may be necessary. The user (e.g., a technician) may instruct the CSN to print the user-selected data that may include a variety of messages (e.g., telephone service subscriber data, error messages, diagnosis/troubleshooting reports, subscriber communication data, etc.) generated by the CSN. Thus, in addition to viewing the messages, the technician may direct the messages to an external printer for a hard copy of the data. Alternatively, instead of the ROP, the technician may connect a laptop computer to the printer port at CSN and capture and store all the messages from the CSN for later processing.